



Superior Court of the District of Columbia  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Rufus King III  
Chief Judge

March 1, 2005

(202) 879-1600

Dear E-filer:

The Superior Court of the District of Columbia has conducted a pilot program for electronic filing since May 2001. The Court thanks you for being an important participant in that program. This letter introduces you to changes on the horizon for the program that will affect you and enhance your participation.

As you may be aware, the Family Court Act (FCA), passed several years ago, required the Court to implement a comprehensive integrated case management system. That system is the Integrated Justice Information System, or IJIS, and the contractor responsible for development and installation of IJIS (selected competitively) is BearingPoint. IJIS is the Court's official docket and case file. It is essential that documents automatically be accepted into IJIS's case management system. An important aspect of IJIS is the capacity for electronic filing. Consistent with the FCA and the Court's mission, the Court intends to expand electronic filing through IJIS wherever possible to provide the public and the legal community with easy and inexpensive access to the Court.

The implementation of IJIS is a multi-year project. Family Court was the first wave of implementation in August 2003. We now are on the cusp of implementing IJIS across the Civil Division. The Small Claims Branch implemented IJIS in December 2004. The Landlord and Tenant Branch is scheduled for implementation in March 2005, and the Civil Actions Branch in April/May 2005. When IJIS is implemented in the Civil Actions Branch, electronic filing in Civil I cases will be conducted through BearingPoint vendors. The Administrative Order governing electronic filing will remain in place with the only changes being those occasioned by the vendor change.

BearingPoint and Microsoft provide what is, in essence, an electronic filing manager. This allows lawyers to work with vendors who work with BearingPoint to e-file pleadings and other filings. BearingPoint's electronic filing manager will translate documents for filing into the case management system and provide electronic service of filings to the attorneys. Over time, attorneys will be able to choose among multiple electronic filing service providers. This will allow all attorneys maximum flexibility in price and functionality for electronic filing with the District of Columbia Superior Court.

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Though many of you have adapted to the current vendor over time, we anticipate the adjustments and disruptions during the transition period will be minor. We are working to make the transition as seamless as possible.

In time, the Court will add case initiation through electronic filing, thereby saving additional trips to the courthouse. The Court will also add Civil II cases, as well as the remainder of the Civil Division, to electronic filing as quickly as possible. Eventually, electronic filing will be court-wide.

We will keep you informed throughout this process. We have established a web page containing the latest information at [www.dccourts.gov/efiling](http://www.dccourts.gov/efiling) for your use. You also will be notified of a Bench-Bar meeting on the topic, as well as training information on any changes to the e-filing process. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please e-mail them to [efile@dcsc.gov](mailto:efile@dcsc.gov). Thank you in advance for your continued cooperation and support as we move through our technology transition with the goal of providing better, more efficient service to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Rufus King III', followed by a small circular stamp or mark.

Rufus King III